GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:354
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2005
BANK BRANCHES ABROAD
Veerendra Kumar Shri M.P.

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to allow only a few selected Public Sector Banks to open branches abroad ;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether some private banks have also been allowed to open branches abroad; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE MINISTER (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM)

(a)to(d) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT FOR LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.354 FOR 16th DECEMBER, 2005 REGARDING BANK BRANCHES ABROAD TABLED BY SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR

(a)&(b) : All Indian banks are allowed to open branches abroad based on certain prudential parameters keeping in view their over all ability to withstand international competition. Banks are also permitted to enter into joint ventures with Banks abroad as also set up subsidiaries.

(c)&(d) Yes, Sir. ICICI Bank Ltd has a branch each in Bahrain and Singapore.It also has two wholly owned subsidiaries abroad. Bharat Overseas Bank Ltd has a branch in Thailand. ICICI Bank Ltd has also been granted permission to open a branch in USA.